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Letter dated 19 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of the letter addressed to you by the Ivorian Government and indicating the agreement of the latter to the deployment of the intervention force of the Economic Community of West African States to replace the French forces which have been deployed on this mission at the request of the Ivorian Government since 18 October 2002 (see annex).

The original of the letter will be transmitted to you as soon as possible.

The Ivorian Government takes this opportunity to thank the Security Council for the unreserved support which it has rendered unceasingly since the outbreak of the conflict.

I should be grateful if you would have the letter from the Ivorian Government distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) D. Philippe **Djangone-Bi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

02-70175 (E) 201102 201102

Annex to the letter dated 19 November 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Ministry of State

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ivorians Abroad

Department for the United Nations and specialized agencies

The Minister

Abidjan, 19 November 2002

I have the honour to call your attention to the fact that, in the context of the search for a peaceful solution to the conflict between the Ivorian Government and the rebels, the agreement for the cessation of hostilities, which was signed by the Representative of the current Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and went into force on 18 October 2002, provided for the deployment of an intervention force to supervise the ceasefire.

The member countries of ECOWAS which have given their consent to participate in this force are, to date, Benin, Togo, the Niger, Ghana and Senegal. Once in place, this West African intervention force will be able to relieve the French forces deployed for supervision of the truce.

The Ivorian Government wishes to reaffirm its desire to settle this conflict by peaceful means and gives its consent to this deployment, which constitutes a vital phase in the implementation of the ceasefire agreement.

Consequently, I should be grateful for any action that the Security Council might envisage in support of this initiative of ECOWAS.

(*Signed*) Abou Drahamane **Sangaré**